

# WYOMING

## *Hunting Guide*



Information on big game, trophy game, game birds, small game and trapping in Wyoming.

2011

This guide will answer most general questions about hunting in Wyoming. More detailed information can be obtained from the specific regulations, references and agencies listed within.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Welcome to Wyoming, the premier destination for hunters from all over the world! Considering the opportunities available, it's no wonder. For many of us, hunting in Wyoming is a long-held tradition where memories are created and tales of past hunting trips are told and retold over an open campfire. Today's hunting experience bonds family and friends just as it has over the history of mankind. Wyoming has a unique and rich hunting history, and has always been the gathering place of choice by hunters such as John Colter, Jim Bridger, Buffalo Bill Cody, and President Teddy Roosevelt. Wyoming was also the ancestral hunting grounds of many Native American tribes, led by great leaders such as Red Cloud, Crazy Horse, and Sitting Bull. In Wyoming you can still hunt in the footsteps of history, while you create your own personal experiences.

Hunting builds a deep respect for the wildlife resources. A successful hunt recognizes the contributions all hunters make to the conservation of wildlife. Your support, through license dollars and taxes paid on hunting equipment, contributes to healthy populations of wildlife in Wyoming to be enjoyed by all. Thank you for your support by investing in the future of wildlife management in Wyoming. As a hunter, you are playing a vital role in keeping Wyoming "Forever Wild!"

Wyoming's landowners also play a significant role in wildlife management by providing critical habitat for many of our wildlife species. Many landowners provide much needed hunter access to aid in managing our wildlife populations. Continued access depends upon your actions. Please respect private property and the landowners who have worked so hard to protect vital habitat. If you receive permission to hunt on private property, please remember the Law of the West: leave the gates as you found them and leave the land as you found it. These simple acts will help protect wildlife habitat, demonstrate respect for private property, maintain positive relationships and help landowners manage their operations.

This guide will help answer the most common questions you may have when applying for a license or hunting in our state. Each state has very different wildlife laws, so I thank you for taking the time to become familiar with Wyoming's laws. Please call (307) 777-4600 for further assistance, and be sure to visit our website <http://gf.state.wy.us>.

Enjoy your Wyoming hunt. It will be an experience unlike any other! And, help us keep the hunting legacy alive by bringing your friends, family members, and others along. Introducing others to hunting is one of the best gifts you can give. Hunting helps us discover and understand our relationship to the land and our place in history. It gets our kids off the couch and away from video games and cell phones. It is one of our most important wildlife management tools, and it is one of the best ways to enjoy this magnificent place we call Wyoming.

Scott Talbott, Director

A handwritten signature of Scott Talbott in black ink, written in a cursive style.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Wyoming Game and Fish Department

<b>Contact Information</b>	4
<b>Frequently Asked Questions</b>	5
Hunting	5
Access	5
Hunting Applications	7
Application Dates	7
Party Applications	8
Draw Odds	8
Special License	8
Preference Points	8
License Types for Big Game	9
Antlerless Animals	9
Age	9
Hunter Safety	10
Firearms/Archery	10
Special Weapons Seasons	11
Other Permits or Stamps	11
Hunter Orange	12
Outfitters	12
Check Stations	12
Chronic Wasting Disease	13
Use of Vehicles to Hunt	13
 <b>Big Game Hunting</b>	 14
Bison	14
Elk	15
Deer	19
Antelope	23
Bighorn Sheep	27
Moose	28
Mountain Goat	29
 <b>Trophy Game</b>	 30
 <b>Upland and Migratory Game Bird,</b>	
<b>Small Game and Trapping</b>	31
 <b>Reference Information</b>	 36





# Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) *Contact Information*

WGFD Website – <http://gf.state.wy.us>

Telephone Information Center (307) 777-4600

Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) (307) 777-4647

## **Cheyenne Headquarters**

5400 Bishop Boulevard  
Cheyenne, WY 82006  
(307) 777-4600

## **Lander Regional Office**

260 Buena Vista  
Lander, WY 82520  
(307) 332-2688

## **Laramie Regional Office**

528 South Adams Street  
Laramie, WY 82070  
(307) 745-4046

## **Green River Regional Office**

351 Astle  
Green River, WY 82935  
(307) 875-3223

## **Casper Regional Office**

3030 Energy Lane, Suite 100  
Casper, WY 82604  
(307) 473-3400

## **Sheridan Regional Office**

700 Valley View Drive  
Sheridan, WY 82801  
(307) 672-7418

## **Jackson Regional Office**

P.O. Box 67  
420 North Cache  
Jackson, WY 83001  
(307) 733-2321

## **Pinedale Regional Office**

P.O. Box 850  
432 E. Mill Street  
Pinedale, WY 82941  
(307) 367-4353

## **Cody Regional Office**

2820 State Highway 120  
Cody, WY 82414  
(307) 527-7125



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1 HUNTING: What can I hunt or trap in Wyoming?

**Big Game:** Hunters can pursue antelope, mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, Shiras moose, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and Rocky Mountain goat. While not classified as big game, wild bison as described by Wyoming statute can also be hunted.

**Furbearers:** Badger, beaver, bobcat, marten, mink, muskrat and weasel are classified as furbearers. A furbearer trapping license is required to take these species. They may be taken by trapping or with firearm or archery equipment. Trapping licenses will be issued to a nonresident only if their home state allows Wyoming residents to trap the same species. Nonresident trapping licenses are only available through the Cheyenne office.

**Game Birds/Small Game:** Bird hunters will find four species of grouse: greater sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, ruffed grouse and blue grouse. The state also has chukar and Hungarian (gray) partridge and ring-necked pheasants, as well as Merriam's, Rio Grande and hybrid wild turkeys. Small game includes cottontail rabbits, snowshoe hares and red and fox squirrels.

**Predatory Animals:** In Wyoming, several species are legally classified as predatory animals. These are coyote, red fox, raccoon, porcupine, skunk, jackrabbit and stray domestic cat. These species may be hunted or trapped without a license and there is no closed season.

**Trophy Game:** Hunters can pursue two trophy game species in Wyoming: black bear and mountain lion. Through 2010 there were no open seasons for wolves or grizzly bears in Wyoming, as they are federally protected.

**Migratory Game Bird Seasons:** Waterfowl (ducks and geese) are found throughout the state in appropriate habitat. Two flyways, the Central and Pacific, bisect Wyoming, each with separate seasons and bag limits. Snipe and rail are only occasionally hunted in Wyoming. There are also seasons for sandhill cranes and mourning doves.

**Nongame Wildlife:** The level of protection afforded nongame wildlife varies by species in

Wyoming. There is a crow season in Wyoming and no license or stamp is required. More information can be obtained from the Nongame Wildlife Regulation (Chapter 52) found on the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/Regs/index.asp>

**Protected Species:** In Wyoming, black-footed ferret, fisher, lynx, otter, pika and wolverine are legally classified as protected animals. All nongame birds - except predacious birds as defined by Wyoming statute and exotic species such as English sparrows, starlings, domestic pigeons and Eurasian collared doves - are also protected. Protected species may not be taken except as provided under state and federal law.

## 2 ACCESS: What is access for hunting like in Wyoming and where do I get maps?

**Public Lands:** Approximately 50 percent of Wyoming is public land, most of which is managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Legally accessible public lands are open to public hunting unless posted by the land management agency or as specified by WGFD regulations. No special permits or fees are required to hunt USFS or BLM lands. It is typically more difficult to draw a limited quota license in an area that contains significant public land. To legally hunt public lands, there must be public access to them via a public road. There are some public land parcels that have no public access. To hunt these public lands, a hunter must obtain permission from the owner of the adjacent private land, even if there is only a small distance of private land between a public road and public lands.

**State Trust Lands:** State, or "school" lands, were originally granted to the states in order to provide a perpetual source of revenue for the public school systems. These are not multiple use public lands in the same sense as BLM and USFS lands. State lands are leased to a private party for grazing or other uses, but are generally open for day hunting if there is legal public access. However, those state lands used to grow crops are open to hunting with the lessee's permission. Vehicle travel is limited to established roads. Camping



and open fires are prohibited. Information on public use rules for state lands can be found on the Office of State Lands and Investments website at <http://slf-web.state.wy.us>. State lands enrolled in the WGFD AccessYes program have specific restrictions. See the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/access/index.asp> for more information.

### **Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Land:**

The commission manages habitat and access areas throughout the state. Commission managed lands allow public access for hunting, fishing or both. See the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/access/gf/index.asp> for further information, including any seasonal closure dates, on these lands.

### **Wyoming Game and Fish Department AccessYes Program:**

The WGFD has acquired hunting and fishing access to more than one million acres of private land through the AccessYes program. This program includes walk-in areas and hunter management areas. More information can be found on the WGFD website <http://gf.state.wy.us/plpwhmprogram/default.aspx> or by calling (307) 777-4600.

### **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Refuges:**

Three federal wildlife refuges in Wyoming currently allow hunting and fishing: Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Pathfinder NWR and the National Elk Refuge. The Laramie Plains refuges (Mortenson Lake NWR, Bamforth NWR and Hutton Lake NWR) and Cokeville Meadows NWR are closed to public hunting. The National Elk Refuge is open to elk and bison hunting and fishing only. A special refuge permit is required along with the appropriate state license and permit. On refuges that allow hunting for waterfowl, upland game birds and small game, non-toxic shot must be used. For more information on national wildlife refuges see the U.S. Fish & Wild Service's website at: <http://www.fws.gov/refuges/>.

### **National Parks and National Recreation Areas:**

As a rule, national parks are closed to hunting. The sole exception is the elk hunt in Grand Teton National Park. A National Park Service special permit and the appropriate state hunting license are required. Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area and the John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway are open to public hunting during established hunting seasons and in accordance with state hunting regulations. Devil's Tower and Fossil Butte national monuments are closed to hunting.

**Private Lands:** Access to private land is controlled by the landowner. Wyoming law does not require private landowners to post their land. It is the responsibility of the hunter to know whether he or she is on public or private land. If you are considering hunting private lands, you should line up access prior to applying. One way to find landowner contacts is through the referral of another hunter. Some chambers of commerce may be able to assist. It is likely most landowners have enough hunters for the opening week of the season. Being flexible on the dates you can hunt may enhance your chances of gaining access. Landowners might charge a fee for access. The fee and terms will vary by property.

**Maps, BLM:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) sells 1:100,000 scale land status maps that are color-coded showing land ownership. These maps also show topographic features, roads and trails. Maps are available from the BLM on the web at <http://policmapcenter.org/WY/>, at BLM offices in the state or by calling (307) 775-6256.

**Maps, USFS:** U.S. Forest Service (USFS) maps are available to those planning to hunt on USFS lands. For the Big Horn, Medicine Bow, Shoshone and Black Hills national forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland, go to [www.fs.fed.us/r2/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/) for information on ordering maps. For the Teton, Bridger, Wasatch and Targhee national parks, call (801) 625-5306. Although BLM maps also cover national forest lands, USFS maps typically have more current information on forest road designations and roads open and closed to public travel.

**Maps, USGS:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) provides a variety of mapping tools at a much finer scale than either BLM or USFS maps. The 1:24,000 scale topographic maps are particularly useful for navigation in remote country and for reconnaissance purposes. USGS TOPO maps can be purchased from the USGS website: <http://topomaps.usgs.gov/>. TOPO maps can also be purchased from the Wyoming State Geological Survey on the University of Wyoming campus or at the website <http://www.wsgs.uwyo.edu/sales/>. Local retailers may have limited supplies of maps covering nearby areas.

**Maps, Other:** GeoCommunicator is the publication site for the BLM's National Integrated Land System. The site allows for searching, accessing, and dynamic mapping of data for federal land stewardship, land and mineral use records, mining claims, and the public land survey system. Interactive maps of lands and resources managed by federal



agencies are available online. For land status maps with a navigation coordinate reader, click on "federal lands" and "map viewer" in the left-hand column of the GeoCommunicator page. Geocommunicator can be accessed at <http://www.geocommunicator.gov/GeoComm/fedland/home/index.shtm>

### **3 HUNTING APPLICATIONS:** **How do I obtain an application packet for Wyoming?**

Resident and nonresident hunting information and application booklets contain application forms and information about planning a hunt in Wyoming. They are available by calling (307) 777-4600, at WGFD offices or by accessing the WGFD website <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/hunting/index.asp>. Resident packets are also available at Wyoming license agents.

### **4 APPLICATION DATES: When can I apply for a license in Wyoming?**

All applications, whether hand-delivered, mailed or submitted online, must arrive in the Cheyenne office by 5 p.m. mountain standard time (MST) on the deadline date. If the deadline is on a weekend or state holiday, applications received by 5 p.m. MST on the next business day will be accepted. Fees must be paid in full when the application is submitted. Unsuccessful applicants will be refunded their license fees minus the application fee.

Licenses remaining after the license draw will be sold to residents and nonresidents on a first-come, first-served basis at any automated license-selling agent location, all WGFD offices and online. Check the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/hunting/index.asp> for additional details and dates.

Those who cannot be physically present at a license-selling agent or do not have access to the Internet have a couple of options. For nonresident applicants, a friend or relative can either bring in your completed application or simply bring all the information necessary to apply (sportsman's ID number if any, physical and mailing address, physical description, date of birth). In either case the person delivering the applications will need to pay for the license. A nonresident may also contact license agents willing to accept applications and credit card numbers over the phone or via fax. Arrangements made in this manner are strictly private and are between the applicant and license-selling agent. Applications may also be mailed to the Cheyenne office with a cashiers check or money order.

For resident applicants, a resident can carry another resident's completed and signed application to any WGFD office. The resident applicant can pay via personal check presented with the application or have the resident person carrying their application pay via personal check or credit card. For residents and nonresidents both, a person can only present a maximum of six applications, including his own.

SPECIES	NONRESIDENT APPLICATION PERIOD	RESIDENT APPLICATION PERIOD
Elk	January 1 – 31	May 1 – 31
Deer	January 1 – March 15	May 1 – 31
Pronghorn Antelope	January 1 – March 15	May 1 – 31
Bighorn Sheep	January 1 – February 28	January 1 – February 28
Moose	January 1 – February 28	January 1 – February 28
Mountain Goat	January 1 – February 28	January 1 – February 28
Bison Priority List	January 1 – February 28	January 1 – February 28
Wild Turkey	January 1-31 (Spring) July 1 – August 15 (Fall)	January 1-31 (Spring) July 1 – August 15 (Fall)
Furbearer Trapping	July 1 – August 1	July 1 – August 1
Sandhill Crane	July 1 – July 31	July 1 – July 31
Springer and Glendo Special Pheasant	August 15 – September 15	August 15 – September 15



## 5 PARTY APPLICATIONS: My friends and I want to hunt together. How do we apply together?

For elk, deer and antelope, up to six hunters can apply together as a party. To apply as a party, all members of the group must apply for exactly the same species, hunt area and license types in the same order of preference. A party application ensures that either all or none of the party will be successful in the drawing. Nonresidents and residents may not apply in the same party.

## 6 DRAW ODDS: What are the odds of drawing a license in Wyoming?

Odds vary greatly from area to area and by license type. Information on the previous year's drawing odds provides a good indication of demand and can be accessed on the WGFD website <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/hunting/stats/demandpdf/index.asp>. In general, areas with large amounts of public land are more difficult to draw than areas where access is predominantly private.

Applying for the "special" license (see below) does not necessarily increase your odds of drawing a license. Check the drawing odds for both special and regular priced licenses before applying.

The odds of drawing a license do not vary between individual applications and party applications. A party application is processed as a single application rather than several individual applications. When an application is received, it is assigned one random number that goes into the computer drawing. If that number is drawn, the individual applicant or the entire party draws a license.

## 7 SPECIAL LICENSE: What is a "Special" License?

Another way nonresidents may increase their drawing odds for elk, deer and antelope is by participating in the special license draw. Wyoming law sets aside 40 percent of the nonresident license quota in a separate drawing pool for applicants who pay a higher license fee. This higher fee may produce more favorable odds of drawing because fewer people usually apply for this draw. However, applying for a "special" license does not necessarily increase your odds of drawing. Check the drawing odds before applying.

## 8 PREFERENCE POINTS: What are preference points and how do I obtain points in Wyoming?

The Wyoming Legislature enacted a preference point system for moose and bighorn sheep licenses beginning in 1995, and for nonresident deer, elk and antelope beginning in 2006.

Each time the individual applies for a bighorn sheep or moose license and fails to draw, that individual accumulates one preference point. Seventy-five percent of the available license quota is allocated to applicants with the highest preference point totals. Eventually, those with the highest preference point totals receive a license and lose their preference points, enabling those with fewer preference points to draw. This system ensures everyone will eventually draw a license if they continue to apply over a long enough period of time. The length of time depends on the demand for a particular license. High demand licenses may require a lot of preference points to draw, whereas some licenses, cow moose as an example, require fewer preference points. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the available license quota is allocated to a random draw, in which everyone participates on an equal basis regardless of the number of preference points they have.

The preference point system for nonresident elk, deer and antelope works in much the same way, except nonresidents who wish to accumulate a preference point are required to include a preference point fee with their license application fee. Nonresidents can opt out of the preference point draw by not including the additional fee with their elk, deer or antelope application. During the elk, deer and antelope draw preference points are only applied to an applicant's first choice. If an applicant does not draw their first choice but draws a second or third choice, they are still eligible to purchase a preference point for the current year.

Preference points can also be purchased without participating in the license draw. Applications must be submitted between July 1 and September 30, either online or by mailed application. The form is available after June 15 on the WGFD website <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/hunting/index.asp>.





## 9. LICENSE TYPES FOR BIG GAME – What do the different license types mean?

Beginning in January 2008, big game licenses with specific age, sex or species limitations were standardized throughout the state as shown in the following table. Resident big game hunters also have the option of purchasing general deer and elk licenses that are unlimited in number and valid in any hunt area with a general hunting season. General elk licenses and region general deer licenses are available to nonresidents, but are limited by quotas.

No person may apply for and receive more than one full price big game license per year for each species, except a second license valid for any white-tailed deer and a second license valid for any antelope may be obtained in selected hunt areas after all drawings have been held. The number of reduced price (Type 6, 7, 8) licenses a person may obtain varies depending on species and hunt area, but no more than one cow/calf elk and two doe/fawn deer and doe/fawn antelope licenses can be obtained through the draw. A special early archery season is offered in most hunt areas and requires a special archery license in addition to the regular hunting license.

### STANDARDIZED BIG GAME LICENSE TYPES

Type 1	Antlered or Any
Type 2	Antlered or Any
Type 3	Antlered or Any white-tailed deer, elk or antelope
Type 4	Full priced antlerless
Type 5	Full priced antlerless
Type 6	Reduce price doe/fawn or cow/calf
Type 7	Reduce price doe/fawn or cow/calf
Type 8	Reduce price doe/fawn, white-tailed deer
Type 9	Archery only
Type 0	Other specialty weapon (e.g. muzzleloader)

## 10 ANTLERLESS ANIMALS: How do I apply for doe/fawn antelope, doe/fawn deer or cow/calf elk licenses?

Licenses valid for doe/fawn deer or antelope and cow/calf elk are available for a reduced price in many hunt areas. These licenses are issued to encourage harvest of female big game animals, which is vital in keeping populations in balance with their habitat. The WGFD also issues "antlerless" elk licenses at full price in several hunt areas. The terms "doe/fawn" and "cow/calf" are used to distinguish licenses sold at a reduced price and can be obtained in addition to a full price license. Hunt areas offering doe/fawn and cow/calf licenses are listed in the application booklet. These licenses are always designated as Type 6, 7 or 8. Keep in mind the number of these licenses varies from year to year depending on the need for antlerless harvest.

Reduced price licenses are available through the initial license draw. During the initial draw, a hunter can apply for one cow/calf elk license, up to two doe/fawn deer and up to two doe/fawn antelope licenses. Hunters who wish to receive a reduced price license only if they draw their full price license may check the doe/

fawn, cow/calf withdrawal boxes on the application. This will ensure if the full price license is not drawn, the hunter will not be entered in the drawing for reduced price licenses. License fees minus the application fee are refunded for all licenses not issued.

Many areas do not sell out during the license draw. Unsold licenses will be available at automated agent locations and the WGFD website on a first-come, first-served basis. Some hunt areas allow a person to purchase up to four reduced price doe/fawn antelope or deer licenses, only two of which can be obtained through the draw with the rest purchased from automated license agents or the WGFD website after the license draw is completed. For more information on purchasing leftover licenses, including the dates these licenses will be available, see the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/>.

## 11 AGE: How old must I be to apply for a license and hunt in Wyoming?

**Big Game:** The minimum age for hunting big game is 12. An applicant may be 11 years of age when applying as long as he or she will be 12 when hunting. While hunting big game, anyone under 14 must be accompanied by an adult who has either passed a hunter safety course or held a big game hunting license within the past five years.





**Big Game Youth Licenses:** Youth licenses are available to hunters under 18 for a lower price. A person who will reach the age of 18 before or during the hunting season may still apply for a youth license, provided that person is under 18 when applying.

**Bison Priority List:** Hunters must be 14 prior to September 15 in order to apply for the bison priority list.

**Game Birds and Small Game:** There is no minimum age for hunting game birds and small game. For game birds other than wild turkeys, resident youth under 14 do not need a license if accompanied by an adult. For unlicensed nonresident youth, an adult must possess a valid game bird license and harvest taken by the youth applies to the adult's bag and possession limit. If a nonresident youth purchases his or her own license, they must still be under adult supervision, but they have their own bag and possession limit as established by regulation. Turkey hunters under 14 years of age may take a wild turkey with the proper license if accompanied by an adult.

Youth under 14 do not need a license to hunt small game. A licensed adult at least 18 years old must accompany any unlicensed nonresident youth while hunting and harvest taken by the youth applies to the adult's bag limit. If a nonresident youth purchases his or her own license there is no requirement for adult supervision and the bag limit is that established by regulation.



## 12 HUNTER SAFETY: Do I need a hunter safety card?

Hunters born on or after January 1, 1966 must possess and be able to show a hunter safety card or certificate while in the field. Hunter safety courses taken in other states are acceptable. In addition, all hunters regardless of age must possess proof of hunter safety when hunting elk in areas 75, 77 and 79.

Wyoming's Hunter Mentor Program allows any person who has not yet received hunter education certification to apply for special authorization to hunt while being accompanied by a mentor. Participation in the program is free. The mentor must be at least 18 years of age, possess a valid hunter safety card or certificate and be able to produce it while in the field, possess a valid Wyoming hunting license, sign the mentee's

special authorization certificate, supervise only one mentee at a time and be in direct supervision within sight and direct voice contact of the mentee at all times while in the field. To sign up for this program go to the WGFD website, <http://gf.state.wy.us/huntermentor/application/frmMainPage.aspx>.



## 13 FIREARMS/ARCHERY: What is legal for hunting in Wyoming?

**Firearms and Handguns:** For big game, Wyoming statutes authorize the use of a firearm with a barrel bore diameter of at least .23 caliber that is chambered to fire a center-fire cartridge of not less than two inches in overall length and includes a soft or expanding point bullet seated to a normal depth. Common .22 caliber center-fire calibers such as .222 Rem., .223, .22-250, etc. are not legal for big or trophy game hunting. Cartridges that may not meet the two-inch criteria are legal if they are at least .35 caliber and develop at least 500 foot pounds of energy at 100 yards. Wild bison can be taken with a firearm that has a barrel bore diameter of at least .27 caliber and is chambered to fire a center-fire cartridge not less than two inches in overall length. The cartridge shall have a minimum of a 150-grain bullet.

Migratory game birds and upland game birds, except blue and ruffed grouse, may be taken with a shotgun 10 gauge or smaller plugged to admit no more than one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the magazine. Hunters shall only have nontoxic shot in their possession while hunting cranes, ducks, geese, mergansers or coots. Only nontoxic shot shall be used to hunt any game with a shotgun on all lands in the Springer and Table Mountain wildlife habitat management areas and on all national wildlife refuges open for hunting. For wild turkeys, firearms using center-fire cartridges, muzzleloading arms or firearms of .22 magnum caliber (22/100 of an inch) and archery equipment may be used. Small game, blue grouse and ruffed grouse may be taken with any weapon.

**Muzzleloading Rifles and Specialty Single Shot Handguns:** For big game, these rifles must be at least .40 caliber with a charge of at least 50 grains of black powder or equivalent. For bison, a muzzleloader rifle must be at least .50 caliber with a charge of at least 100 grains of black powder or equivalent. These weapons can be used during the regular firearms season and muzzleloading rifle only seasons. Muzzleloading



specialty single shot handguns are also legal for big game provided they have a barrel length of 10 inches or more, are at least .45 caliber and propel a 240 grain projectile with 500 foot pounds of energy at 100 yards. Inline muzzleloaders and muzzleloaders with telescopic sights are legal in Wyoming, but breech loading black powder rifles are not legal during muzzleloading only seasons. Muzzleloaders may be used to hunt bison, except on the National Elk Refuge.

**Archery and Crossbows:** For elk, bison or moose, an archer must hunt with a bow of not less than 50 lbs. draw weight or possessing the ability to cast a 500-grain arrow 160 yards. For other big or trophy game, archers must hunt with a bow of not less than 40 lbs. draw weight or possessing the ability to cast a 400 grain arrow not less than 160 yards. Crossbows are legal during the early archery and regular season. Legal crossbows must be at least 90 lbs. draw weight, have a minimum draw length of 14 inches, and shoot a bolt of at least 16 inches long. Arrows and bolts must be equipped with a steel broadhead with a minimum cutting width of one inch. Archery equipment is legal for hunting bison in Wyoming except on the National Elk Refuge.

## 14 SPECIAL WEAPON SEASONS: Are there special archery or muzzleloader seasons in Wyoming? Do I need a special license?

**Archery Seasons:** Special archery seasons are available prior to the regular season in nearly all big game hunt areas. In addition to a general or limited quota license, one must purchase an archery license before hunting during a special archery season. Only one archery license per year is required and it is valid for all big and trophy game special archery seasons. Archery licenses are available on the WGFD website at <https://gf.state.wy.us/also/elsowelcome.aspx>.

Special archery seasons for deer normally open September 1, depending on the hunt area, and close September 30. For elk, special archery seasons normally open September 1 and close September 30 or earlier in areas with September regular season openers. Special archery seasons for antelope normally open August 15 or September 1 depending on the hunt area and close when the regular season opens. Archery equipment can be used during the regular season, but all hunters hunting during the regular season must wear hunter orange.

Some limited quota hunting seasons are

restricted to archery hunting only. Archers possessing a Type 9 archery only license are not required to purchase an archery permit. However, they can only hunt in the hunt area(s) and during the dates their license is valid and may not hunt during a later regular season if unsuccessful.

**Muzzleloader Seasons:** With few exceptions, Wyoming does not offer separate muzzleloader hunting seasons for big game. When applying for one of the few muzzleloader special seasons, look for the "Type 0" licenses for specialty weapons.

## 15 OTHER PERMITS OR STAMPS: Do I need any other licenses or stamps to hunt in Wyoming?

**Conservation Stamp:** All licensed hunters and anglers, with the exception of those holding daily game bird/small game licenses, daily fishing licenses, any pioneer license or furbearing animal trapping licenses are required to purchase a single conservation stamp each calendar year. Youth hunters and anglers under the age of 14 who do not obtain a license to hunt small game, game birds or fish also do not need to purchase a conservation stamp. Revenue from the sale of this stamp supports the AccessYes program and habitat work throughout the state. Conservation stamps are available on the WGFD web site at <https://gf.state.wy.us/also/elsowelcome.aspx> or from license-selling agents.



**Elk Feedground Special Management Permit (Stamp):** An elk feedground special management permit is required to hunt elk in some hunt areas in northwest Wyoming. Areas where this permit is required are listed in the elk regulations and can be found on the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/Regs/index.asp>. Revenue from this permit helps finance elk feedgrounds in those hunt areas. These permits are available on the WGFD website at <https://gf.state.wy.us/also/elsowelcome.aspx>.

**Pheasant Special Management Permit (Stamp):** A pheasant special management permit is required to hunt pheasants on some department wildlife habitat management areas, some lands enrolled in the AccessYes program and some state lands. Revenue from this permit helps finance pheasant rearing and stocking. Areas where this permit is required are listed in the Upland Game Bird regulations and can be found on the WGFD web site in the Pheasant Regulations (Chapter 18) at <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/Regs/index.asp>. These permits are available on the WGFD website at <https://gf.state.wy.us/also/elsowelcome.aspx>.





**Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp (Duck Stamp):** Hunters 16 years of age and older are required to purchase a federal migratory bird hunting stamp to hunt ducks, geese and mergansers. This stamp is not required to hunt sandhill cranes, mourning doves, coots, snipe, rails or crows. It may be obtained at U.S. Post Offices and some license agents around the state. This stamp can also be purchased online at: <http://www.usps.com> or at <http://www.duckstamp.com>. If purchasing online, plan ahead as it can take several days to receive the stamp. The receipt for purchasing the stamp is not legal to hunt with. These stamps are not sold at WGFD offices.

**Harvest Information Program (HIP) Permit:** Each licensed hunter, including pioneers, who hunts ducks, geese, mergansers, sandhill cranes, mourning doves, coots, snipe and rails is required to complete a current Wyoming validation for the National Harvest Information Program and obtain a Wyoming HIP permit. The HIP permit must be carried in the field while the person is hunting migratory game birds. HIP permits from other states are not transferable to Wyoming. The permit is free at the WGFD website <http://gf.state.wy.us/apps/hip/index.asp>, but will cost \$0.50 at license agents and Game and Fish offices.

**Light Goose Conservation Order Special Management Permit:** A light goose special management permit is required to participate in the spring hunting season for light geese in eastern Wyoming. Permits are available at the Casper, Cheyenne and Laramie offices or on the WGFD web site at <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/hunting/formsapps/GameBird/index.asp>

**Goose Special Management Stamp:** A goose special management stamp is required to participate in the Bump-Sullivan Managed Goose Hunt when the hunt is in operation.

## 16 **HUNTER ORANGE:** What are the hunter orange requirements in Wyoming?

One exterior fluorescent orange or camouflage orange garment, to include a hat, shirt, jacket, coat, vest or sweater, is required for all hunters during big and trophy game regular seasons. Camouflage fluorescent orange is legal. Fluorescent orange is not required during special archery seasons or limited quota archery only seasons. However, fluorescent orange is required when hunting with archery equipment during



a firearms season. Fluorescent orange is also required while hunting pheasants on Wyoming Game and Fish wildlife habitat management areas and on Bureau of Reclamation withdrawal lands bordering and including Glendo State Park. Fluorescent orange is not required, but is recommended, for other game bird and small game hunters. Fluorescent orange is not recommended for spring wild turkey hunting but is required when hunting wild turkey during fall seasons if hunting big game at the same time.

## 17 **OUTFITTERS:** Do I need an outfitter or guide to hunt in Wyoming?

Nonresident big or trophy game hunters are required to have a professional or resident guide if hunting big or trophy game in federally designated wilderness areas. Anyone can choose to hire an outfitter while planning their hunt. If you are hiring an outfitter, make sure they are licensed with the Wyoming Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides.

A list of licensed outfitters and guides is available from the Wyoming State Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides, <http://outfitters.state.wy.us> or by phone at (800) 264-0981.

Landowners do not need a license from the Board of Outfitters while guiding or outfitting on their own land. Any resident possessing a valid big or trophy game license may obtain a resident guide license from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. This license authorizes the resident to guide up to two nonresidents in a wilderness area per calendar year provided they do not accept any compensation or gratuity.

## 18 **CHECK STATIONS:** Do I have to check my animal in with Game and Fish?



Every hunter, angler or trapper must stop at any established check station while en route to or from the field, even if you don't have any wildlife in your possession and even if you have been hunting in another state.



## 19 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE: Information

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) has been found in deer, elk and moose in Wyoming. For more information on this wildlife disease see the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/services/education/cwd/index.asp>. Regulations governing carcass transportation in Wyoming can be found at the WGFD website <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/regulations/pdf/Ch2.pdf>. Once there, scroll down to Section 15 for more specific information. Many states also regulate the importation of big game meat and parts. Contact your state wildlife department for information on the laws in your state.



## 20 USE OF VEHICLES TO HUNT: Can I use an ORV, aircraft or other vehicle to hunt in Wyoming?

Wyoming law specifies it is illegal to shoot or attempt to kill any wildlife from any public road or highway. It is also illegal to shoot from, upon, across or along a public road or highway. Public road or highway means any roadway open to vehicular travel by the public. The road surface, the area between the fences on a fenced public road or highway, and an area 30 feet perpendicular to the edge of the road surface on an unfenced public road or highway shall be considered the public road or highway. Two-track trails on public lands are not public roads.

It is also illegal to harass, hunt, pursue, shoot or kill any Wyoming wildlife (except predatory animals) from or by the use of any vehicle or aircraft. Further, an aircraft cannot be used to spot wildlife or to communicate the location of wildlife to someone on the ground. This does not apply to commercial, commuter or other aircraft used for the sole purpose of passenger transport.

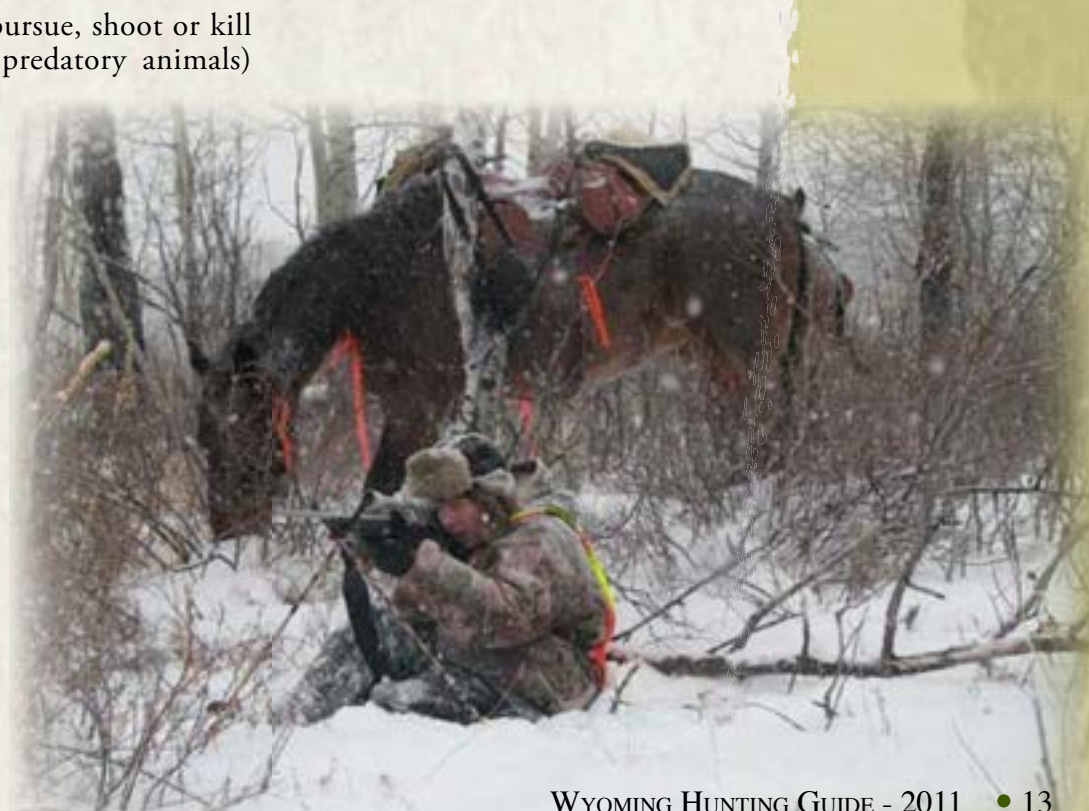
While it is not illegal in Wyoming to spot game from a vehicle on the ground, the hunter may not use the vehicle to pursue or intercept game, or otherwise aid in the physical act of hunting or taking an animal. The hunter must be completely out of the vehicle with both feet on the ground and, if on a public

road, must be outside the fenced right-of-way or the area considered the public road before taking a shot.

The use of off-road-vehicles (ORVs) by hunters has skyrocketed in Wyoming and elsewhere in recent years. The WGFD receives more complaints from hunters about misuse of ORVs than any other single issue. There are both appropriate and inappropriate uses of an ORV while hunting. First and foremost, the ORV operator must be familiar with travel and off-road rules for the lands on which he or she is hunting. Travel is generally restricted to established roads or two-track trails on most lands managed by the USFS, state and BLM. Depending on the location, vehicles may be permitted to travel short distances off-road to retrieve game when no resource damage will result. Roads that are posted as closed to vehicle travel means they are closed to all vehicles including ORVs. Vehicle travel on state lands and lands managed by the WGFD is also restricted to established and open roads only and there is no allowance to travel off-road.



Additional information about ORV permitting requirements in Wyoming and rules regarding their use on public lands can be viewed on the Wyoming State ORV Program website at <http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/Rules/ORVRulesRegs.asp> or by calling (307) 777-7477.







# BISON

**B**ison have been hunted in Wyoming periodically since the winter of 1988-1989. Hunts have taken place both in the Jackson area and west of Cody. Like all big game in Wyoming, hunting is used as a management tool to control bison population growth. Controlling population growth is important to avoid permanent habitat damage caused by an overabundance of animals.

**I**n order to hunt bison in Wyoming, you must apply for placement on the bison priority list. This list ranks hunters in the order they may be contacted when the department determines a wild bison hunting opportunity exists. You can apply for a male wild bison (Type 1) or a female/calf wild bison (Type 4) license. If you are selected to participate in a hunt, you will be required to

purchase the wild bison license at that time. See the regulations for further details.

**B**ison hunting in the Jackson area is currently limited to portions of the Bridger-Teton National Forest, the National Elk Refuge, small parcels of state-owned land and potentially some private lands with landowner permission. One complication of this bison hunt is the animals often roam between lands that are open to hunting and those that are not, including National Park Service lands. Hunters can access National Forest Lands adjacent to Grand Teton National Park only through public access routes. Access to the National Elk Refuge is through a permit system administered by the WGFD.







# ELK

## Obtaining a License

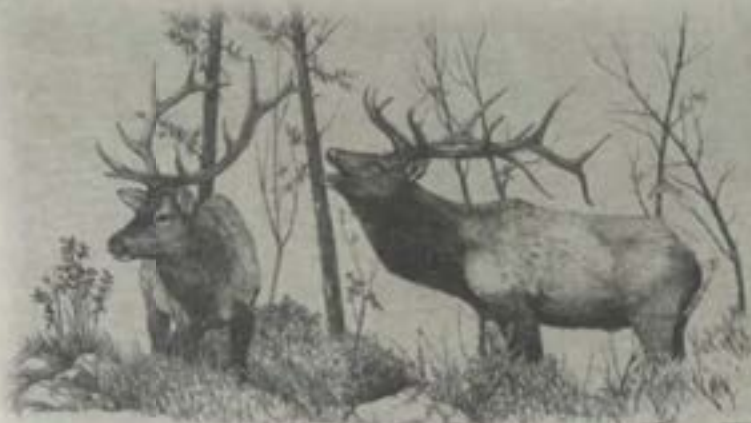
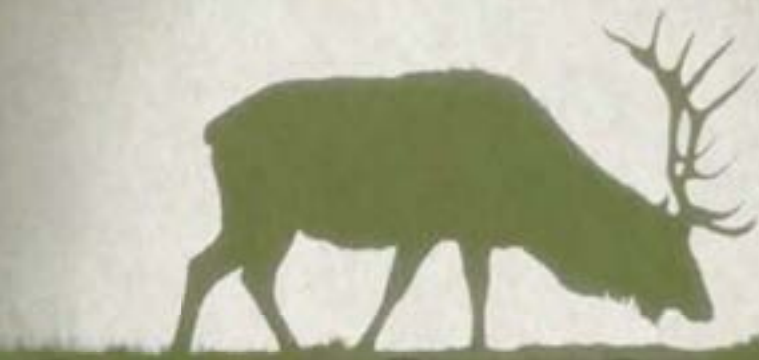
Elk licenses are issued as either limited quota licenses valid in specific hunt areas, or as general licenses that can be used in any hunt area with a general elk season. Drawing odds for limited quota elk licenses vary markedly, with some nearly as difficult to draw as bighorn sheep licenses. Resident general elk licenses are unlimited and can be purchased over-the-counter at any time through the end of the last general elk season. Nonresident general elk licenses are subject to a quota and issued through the nonresident elk drawing. There is no over-the-counter sale of general licenses to nonresidents. Applying for a general license is a good option for nonresidents who desire to hunt a bull elk. General elk licenses also provide the flexibility to hunt in more than one hunt area during elk hunting seasons. Limited quota licenses are issued in a drawing for both residents and nonresidents. Licenses left over after the drawing

Wyoming elk hunters have a wide range of options. Elk range from mountainous wilderness areas to lowland deserts and plains and are plentiful on both public and private lands. Every national forest has elk, and herds are also present on mountain ranges and desert areas administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

are available through the leftover license process (see Question 4 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section).

## Antlerless Elk Licenses

In addition to reduced price cow/calf elk licenses (see Question 9 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section), antlerless elk licenses that sell for full price are also available. These licenses are listed as "Type 4 or Type 5" in the application booklet. Draw odds for purchasing antlerless elk licenses can be very favorable. Often times, hunters can draw an antlerless elk license without the use of any accumulated preference points by applying for a Type 4 or Type 5 as a second choice.





# ELK HUNT AREAS

Elk Hunt Area	Regional Office	Chance to Harvest A Mature Bull	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
1	Casper	Good	0-25%	Excellent
2	Sheridan	Good	26-50%	Fair
3	Casper/Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
5	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
6	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
7	Laramie/Casper	Good	51-75%	Fair
8	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
9	Laramie	Fair	26-50%	Fair
10	Laramie	Fair	0-25%	Good
11	Laramie	Fair	26-50%	Poor
12	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
13	Laramie	Fair	0-25%	Good
14	Laramie	Fair	0-25%	Good
15	Laramie	Fair	0-25%	Good
16	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Poor
19	Casper	Good	26-50%	Fair
21	Green River	Fair	0-25%	Good
22	Lander	Good	0-25%	Fair
23	Casper	Good	26-50%	Good
24	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
25	Lander	Good	26-50%	Fair
27	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
28	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
30	Green River	Excellent	26-50%	Good
31	Green River	Excellent	0-25%	Good
32	Green River	Excellent	0-25%	Good
33	Sheridan	Good	26-50%	Good
34	Sheridan	Good	26-50%	Fair
35	Sheridan	Good	0-25%	Good
36	Sheridan	Good	0-25%	Good
37	Sheridan	Good	0-25%	Good
38	Sheridan	Good	0-25%	Good
39	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
40	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
41	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
42	Cody	Good	76-100%	Good
44	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
45	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good
46	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good
47	Cody	Good	51-75%	Poor



Elk Hunt Area	Regional Office	Chance to Harvest A Mature Bull	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
48	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
49	Cody	Good	51-75%	Poor
50	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
51	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
52	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
53	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
54	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
55	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
56	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
58	Cody	Good	26-50%	Fair
59	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
60	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
61	Cody	Good	0-25%	Poor
62	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
63	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good
64	Cody	Good	51-75%	Good
65	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
66	Cody	Good	0-25%	Poor
67	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
68	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
69	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
70	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
71	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
72	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
73	Jackson	Fair	0-25%	Good
74	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
75	Jackson	Good	26-50%	Good
77	Jackson	Good	76-100%	Good
78	Jackson	Good	76-100%	Good
79	Jackson	Good	51-75%	Good
80	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
81	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
82	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
83	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
84	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
85	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
86	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
87	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
88	Jackson	Fair	26-50%	Good
89	Jackson	Fair	0-25%	Good
90	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good



Elk Hunt Area	Regional Office	Chance to Harvest A Mature Bull	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
91	Jackson	Fair	0-25%	Fair
92	Jackson	Good	26-50%	Good
93	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Fair
94	Pinedale	Good	26-50%	Good
95	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
96	Pinedale	Good	26-50%	Good
97	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
98	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
99	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
100	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
102	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
103	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
104	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
105	Green River	Fair	26-50%	Good
106	Green River	Fair	76-100%	Fair
107	Green River	Fair	0-25%	Fair
108	Lander	Fair	26-50%	Fair
110	Laramie	Poor	0-25%	Good
111	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
113	Casper / Sheridan	Excellent	26-50%	Good
114	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
116	Casper	Good	51-75%	Poor
117	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
118	Lander	Fair	26-50%	Fair
120	Casper	Good	26-50%	Good
121	Cody	Good	26-50%	Fair
122	Casper	Good	51-75%	Poor
123	Sheridan	Excellent	51-75%	Poor
124	Green River	Fair	26-50%	Good
125	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
127	Lander	Fair	76-100%	Poor
128	Lander	Poor	26-50%	Good
129	Sheridan/Casper	Poor	76-100%	Poor
130	Lander	Poor	75-100%	Poor

## WYOMING GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT



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# DEER

**W**yoming hosts both mule deer and white-tailed deer. Mule deer are Wyoming's most populous and sought-after deer. Mule deer are found from high in the western mountains to the low elevation creek bottoms of eastern Wyoming and most habitats in between. Many hunters choose where they hunt mule deer based on the type of terrain and scenery they want to experience in Wyoming.

**W**hite-tails are abundant in the Black Hills of northeast Wyoming. Elsewhere they are found primarily along the bottoms of lower elevation creeks and rivers, in farm country of the eastern third of the state and the Big Horn Basin and Riverton area in north central Wyoming.

**W**yoming has seasons opening as early as September 10 for rifle deer hunting and doe/fawn seasons closing as late as December.

## Obtaining a License

**A**ll nonresident deer licenses are initially offered through the license draw. Region general licenses are geographically divided into 15 regions for nonresidents. With a region general license, nonresidents can hunt in any general license area within that region. Nonresident regions B, C, J,

M and T are predominately private land and have traditionally been easier to draw. However, since these areas are mostly private land, hunters are encouraged to line up access prior to applying for a license.

**A**fter the initial draw, hunters can purchase an "any white-tailed deer" license in specific hunt areas, if still available, in addition to the license they may have already drawn. These "any white-tailed deer" licenses are available in areas that are predominately private land, so hunters are encouraged to line up access before buying the license. Hunters may also purchase up to four doe/fawn deer licenses, only two of which can be obtained through the draw. See Questions 9 and 10 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section for more details.

## Licenses for hunting mule deer and white-tailed deer

**G**enerally, a hunter can use the same license to hunt either species. Your specific license limitation shown in the regulations will tell you what deer is legal. For example, if the regulation specifies "antlered deer," that means you can harvest only deer with visible antlers, either mule deer or white-tailed deer. Some areas may specify "antlered mule deer or any white-tailed deer." That means a mule deer must have antlers to be legally harvested, but any white-tailed buck, doe or fawn, would be legal. Always consult the regulations for your hunt area prior to hunting.

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# DEER HUNT AREAS

Deer Hunt Area	Region	Regional Office	Chance to Harvest A Mature Buck	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
1	A	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
2	A	Casper	Good	51-75%	Good
3	A	Casper/Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
4	A	Casper	Good	26-50%	Good
5	A	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
6	A	Casper	Good	51-75%	Fair
7	B	Casper	Fair	51-75%	Poor
8	B	Casper	Good	51-75%	Fair
9	B	Casper	Fair	51-75%	Poor
10	B	Casper/Sheridan	Fair	26-50%	Good
11	B	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
12	B	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
13	B	Casper	Good	51-75%	Fair
14	B	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
15	T	Casper / Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
16	T	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
17	C	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
18	C	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
19	C	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
20	C	Sheridan	Fair	76-100%	Poor
21	B	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
22	B	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
23	C	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
24	Y	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
25	Y	Sheridan	Poor	0-25%	Good
26	C	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
27	Y	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
28	Y	Sheridan	Poor	0-25%	Good
29	C	Sheridan	Fair	76-100%	Poor
30	Y	Sheridan	Good	26-50%	Fair
31	C	Sheridan	Fair	76-100%	Poor
32	Y	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
33	Y	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Fair
34	E	Casper	Good	51-75%	Good
35	M	Cody	Fair	51-75%	Poor
36	M	Lander	Fair	26-50%	Good
37	M	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
39	M	Cody	Poor	0-25%	Good
40	M	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
41	R	Cody	Poor	26-50%	Good



Deer Hunt Area	Region	Regional Office	Chance to Harvest A Mature Buck	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
42	M	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
43	M	Cody	Poor	76-100%	Good
44	R	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Good
45	R	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Good
46	R	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
47	R	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
49	R	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Good
50	R	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
51	R	Cody	Poor	26-50%	Good
52	R	Cody	Poor	76-100%	Good
53	R	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
55	T	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
57	T	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
59	J	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
60	J	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
61	J	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
62	J	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
63	J	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
64	J	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
65	J	Casper	Good	51-75%	Fair
66	D	Casper	Good	26-50%	Good
67	D	Casper	CLOSED		CLOSED
70	D	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
73	J	Laramie	Fair	26-50%	Fair
74	D	Laramie	Fair	51-75%	Good
75	D	Laramie	Fair	0-25%	Good
76	D	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
77	D	Laramie	Poor	76-100%	Poor
78	D	Laramie	Good	26-40%	Fair
79	D	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Fair
80	D	Laramie	Fair	26-50%	Fair
81	D	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
82	W	Green River	Fair	0-25%	Good
83	D	Lander	Fair	26-50%	Poor
84	W	Lander	Fair	26-50%	Good
87	E	Lander	Good	51-75%	Good
88	E	Casper	Fair	51-75%	Fair
89	E	Casper	Good	26-50%	Fair
90	E	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
91	E	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
92	E	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
93	E	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
94	E	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
95	E	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good



Deer Hunt Area	Region	Regional Office	Chance to Harvest A Mature Buck	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
97	E	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
98	E	Lander	Fair	26-50%	Fair
100	W	Green River	Poor	26-50%	Good
101	W	Green River	Fair	26-50%	Good
102	W	Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
105	F	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
106	F	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
109	F	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
110	F	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
111	F	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
112	F	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
113	F	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Good
114	F	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
115	F	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
116	F	Cody	Good	51-75%	Poor
117	F	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
118	F	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good
119	F	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good
120	F	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
121	F	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Good
122	F	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Poor
123	F	Cody	Fair	51-75%	Good
124	F	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Fair
125	F	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
127	F	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
128	E	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
130	H	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
131	W	Green River	Fair	26-50%	Good
132	K	Green River	Poor	0-25%	Good
133	K	Green River	Good	51-75%	Fair
134	K	Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
135	G	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
138	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
139	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
140	H	Jackson	Good	26-50%	Good
141	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
142	H	Jackson	Good	26-50%	Good
143	G	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
144	G	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
145	G	Jackson	Fair	76-100%	Fair
146	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
148	E	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
149	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
150	H	Jackson	Fair	51-75%	Fair



Deer Hunt Area	Region	Regional Office	Chance to Harvest A Mature Buck	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
152	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
153	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
154	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
155	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
156	H	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
157	E	Lander	Good	76-100%	Fair
160	E	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
161	D	Laramie	Fair	26-50%	Poor
162	H	Jackson	Good	26-50%	Good
163	Y	Sheridan	Fair	26-50%	Fair
164	M	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
165	F	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
168	K	Green River	Fair	26-50%	Good
169	Y	Sheridan	Fair	26-50%	Fair
170	E	Lander	Fair	75-100%	Poor

# ANTELOPE

If you want to hunt an antelope, you've come to the right place. Wyoming has more antelope than all the rest of the continent. Pronghorn antelope, called antelope here, are found only in western North America.

## Obtaining a License

Wyoming's most sought after antelope hunting is primarily found in south-central, central and southwest Wyoming. Most hunt areas in these parts of Wyoming have ample public access on lands managed by the BLM. Public land hunt areas are typically hard to draw. Antelope are also

abundant in northeast and east-central Wyoming, although finding access can be difficult because the area is largely private land.

After the license draw has been held, hunters can purchase a second "any antelope" license in specific hunt areas, if still available, in addition to the "any antelope" license they may have already drawn. "Any antelope" licenses still available after the draw are typically found in areas that are predominately private land, so hunters are encouraged to line up access before buying the license. Hunters may purchase up to four doe/fawn antelope licenses, only two of which can be obtained through the draw. See Questions 9 and 10 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section for more details.





## Care of antelope meat

Some say antelope are poor tasting. “Too gamey” or “too strong” are common laments. Others contend antelope are the best wild meat ever. Antelope probably have the most distinctive flavor of any Wyoming big game. So the perspective does vary by individual palette, and the diet of the animal (sagebrush vs. alfalfa, etc.). But there is another factor that weighs heavier with antelope than with other big game: field care. That’s because antelope seasons are the earliest big game season

in many parts of the state and they are generally harvested at the lowest elevations. In warm conditions, hunters are encouraged to practice the same field care for antelope that they would for birds – get the animal skinned and into coolers as soon as possible. A cooler also protects the meat from dirt and dust. In addition, the intestinal and bladder contents of antelope are especially strong and can taint the meat if released. So take extra care when field dressing an antelope. If you follow these simple field preparations, your chances of getting a “gamey goat” are greatly reduced.

# ANTELOPE HUNT AREAS

Antelope Hunt Area	Regional Office Contact Information	Chance to Harvest a Mature Buck	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
1	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
2	Casper	Good	51-75%	Poor
3	Casper/Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
4	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
5	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
6	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
7	Casper	Good	51-75%	Good
8	Casper	Good	76-10%	Poor
9	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
10	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
11	Casper/Laramie	Good/Fair	76-100%	Poor
12	Casper/Laramie	Good/Fair	76-100%	Poor
15	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
16	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
17	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
18	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Fair
19	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
20	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
21	Sheridan	Good	26-50%	Fair
22	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
23	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
24	Sheridan	Good	76-100%	Poor
25	Casper	Good	51-75%	Poor
26	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
27	Casper/Sheridan	Good	26-50%	Good
29	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
30	Casper	Good	76-100%	Poor
31	Casper	Good	26-50%	Fair
32	Casper	Good	26-50%	Good
34	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
35	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor



<b>Antelope Hunt Area</b>	<b>Regional Office Contact Information</b>	<b>Chance to Harvest a Mature Buck</b>	<b>Percentage Private Land</b>	<b>Access to Public Land</b>
36	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
37	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
38	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
39	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
40	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
41	Laramie	Fair	51-75%	Fair
42	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
43	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
44	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
45	Laramie	Good	76-100%	Poor
46	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
47	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
48	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
50	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
51	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
52	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Fair
53	Green River	Fair	26-50%	Good
55	Lander	Good	26-50%	Fair
56	Lander	Good	26-50%	Poor
57	Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
58	Green River	Fair	26-50%	Good
59	Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
60	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
61	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
62	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
63	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
64	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
65	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
66	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
67	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
68	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
69	Casper	Good	0-25%	Good
70	Casper	Good	51-75%	Fair
71	Casper	Good	51-75%	Fair
72	Casper	Good	26-50%	Fair
73	Casper	Good	26-50%	Good
74	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
75	Lander	Good	26-50%	Good
76	Cody	Fair	26-50%	Good
77	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
78	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
79	Cody	Poor	0-25%	Good
80	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good
81	Cody	Good	51-75%	Good
82	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good
83	Cody	Good	26-50%	Good




Antelope Hunt Area	Regional Office Contact Information	Chance to Harvest a Mature Buck	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
87	Pinedale	Good	51-75%	Good
88	Pinedale	Good	51-75%	Good
89	Pinedale	Good	26-50%	Good
90	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
91	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
92	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
93	Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
94	Green River	Good	26-50%	Fair
95	Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
96	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
97	Lander	Fair	76-100%	Fair
98	Green River	Poor	26-50%	Good
99	Green River	Fair	51-75%	Fair
100	Green River	Poor	26-50%	Good
102	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
103	Casper / Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
104	Laramie	Good	51-75%	Poor
106	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
107	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
108	Lander	Good	26-50%	Poor
109	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
110	Cody	Good	26-50%	Poor
111	Laramie	Fair	76-100%	Poor
112	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
113	Sheridan	Good	51-75%	Poor
114	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
115	Cody	Good	51-75%	Good
116	Cody	Poor	76-100%	Good
117	Lander	Fair	76-100%	Poor



## HUNTERS - Apply Online!

Use the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's  
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FISH DEPARTMENT**  
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Serving People"*



# BIGHORN SHEEP

The Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep is one of those animals that is on many hunter's wish list. To hunt one, you must be lucky in the drawing and also in good physical condition. In Wyoming, bighorn sheep inhabit several mountain ranges, but the largest herds are found in the Shoshone National Forest areas near Cody, Meeteetse and Dubois.

## Obtaining a License

Obtaining a bighorn sheep license is akin to winning the lottery. New applicants with no preference points will at least have a mathematical chance to draw a license if they apply in areas with larger license quotas since 25 percent of the quota in those areas is issued through the random draw. Drawing odds in the random draw are typically less than 1 percent. See Question 8 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section for more details. Once a

license is obtained, the successful applicant loses all preference points and must wait five years before applying again.

## Selecting an Area

Hunting bighorn sheep is different from most other big game hunting since most bighorn sheep occupy remote areas within designated wilderness areas. Hunting bighorn sheep is logistically more difficult and physically demanding and typically involves packing gear long distances into rugged country, often at very high elevations. Because of this and Wyoming's wilderness guide law, nonresidents who draw a bighorn sheep license should anticipate hunting with a guide. Average hunter success is typically around 75 percent. Bighorn sheep must be checked and registered at a regional Game and Fish office or at the Cheyenne office within 15 days of harvest.

# BIGHORN SHEEP HUNT AREAS

Bighorn Sheep Hunt Area	Regional Office Contact Information	Chance to Harvest a Mature Ram	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
1	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
2	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
3	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
4	Cody/Jackson/Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
5	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
6	Jackson	Poor	0-25%	Good
7	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
8	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
9	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
10	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
12	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
18	Laramie	Poor	26-50%	Good
19	Casper / Laramie	Good	51-75%	Fair
20*	Casper	Unknown	76-100%	Fair
21	Laramie	Fair	26-50%	Good
22	Lander	Fair	25-50%	Good
23	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
24	Pinedale	Good	26-50%	Good



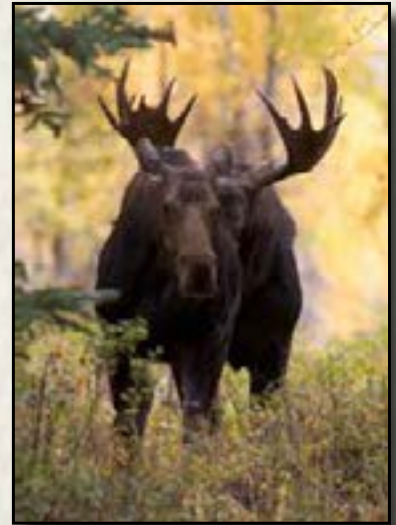
# MOOSE

Moose are found in many of the mountain ranges and river bottom areas throughout Wyoming, but the greatest numbers are found in the Bridger-Teton National Forest region south of Jackson. Moose are also found in the Bighorn National Forest in north central Wyoming and the Medicine Bow Forest in southeast Wyoming. Harvest success of 80 to 90 percent is typical.

## Obtaining a License

Obtaining a moose license can be very difficult or relatively easy depending on the hunt area and the sex of the animal. Cow licenses in many areas can be drawn with only a few preference points, while the

drawing odds for a bull or any moose tag are much steeper. Wyoming law allocates 80 percent of moose licenses to residents, with the remaining 20 percent issued to nonresidents. Of course with the random drawing there is always a mathematical chance of drawing a license for first time applicants. Once a moose license is drawn the hunter must wait five years before applying again.



## MOOSE HUNT AREAS

Moose Hunt Area	Regional Office Contact Information	Chance to Harvest a Mature Bull	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
1	Sheridan	Good	0-25%	Good
2	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
3	Pinedale	Fair	0-25%	Good
4	Pinedale	Fair	26-50%	Good
5	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
6	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
7	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
8	Cody	CLOSED		CLOSED
9	Cody	Good	51-75%	Good
10	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
11	Cody	Fair	76-100%	Good
14	Jackson	Good	0%	Good
15	Jackson	Good	0%	Good
16	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
17	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
18	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
19	Jackson	CLOSED		CLOSED
20	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
21	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
22	Pinedale	Fair	0-25%	Good



Moose Hunt Area	Regional Office Contact Information	Chance to Harvest a Mature Bull	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
23	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
24	Pinedale	Good	0-25%	Good
25	Pinedale	Good	26-50%	Good
26	Green River	Good	0-25%	Good
27	Green River	Good	51-75%	Fair
28	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
30	Lander	Good	0-25%	Good
32	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
33	Green River	CLOSED		CLOSED
34	Sheridan	Good	0-25%	Good
35	Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
36	Green River	Poor	26-50%	Good
37	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
38	Laramie	Good	26-50%	Good
40	Green River	Poor	51-75%	Fair
41	Laramie / Green River	Good	26-50%	Good
42	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
43	Cody	Fair	0-25%	Good
44	Green River	Poor	0-25%	Good



## MOUNTAIN GOATS

Mountain goats are hunted in two locations in Wyoming: the Beartooth Mountains north of Cody, and the Palisades area south of Jackson. As with bighorn sheep, drawing a license requires more than a little bit of luck. Once a permit is drawn, hunter success is very high, 100 percent in most years. The Beartooth Mountains encompass some wilderness while the Palisades area is non-wilderness, allowing do-it-yourself hunts for the nonresident. There are no preference points for mountain goats since Wyoming law limits a hunter to one mountain goat license in a lifetime. Mountain goats must be checked and registered at a regional office or at the Cheyenne office within 15 days of harvest.

## MOUNTAIN GOAT HUNT AREAS

Mountain Goat Hunt Area	Regional Office Contact Information	Chance to Harvest Mature Goat	Percentage Private Land	Access to Public Land
1	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good
2	Jackson	Good	0-25%	Good
3	Cody	Good	0-25%	Good





## BLACK BEARS

Black bears are hunted during the spring and fall in Wyoming's mountain ranges. Baiting is legal outside designated wilderness and grizzly areas in Wyoming in some hunt areas. Bait type may be restricted in those areas open to baiting. See the black bear regulations for further details on baiting or go to the WGFD website, Black Bear Regulations (Chapter 3) at <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/Regs/index.asp>. Hunter harvest within individual hunt areas is regulated through a female mortality quota. Once the quota is reached, the season closes. It is the hunter's responsibility to determine if an area is still open prior to hunting by calling the black bear area mortality quota hotline at (800) 264-1280. Once a bear is harvested, the license holder must present the unfrozen pelt and skull within 72 hours to a local warden or biologist or at any of the WGFD offices during normal business hours for registration and the collection of two premolar teeth.



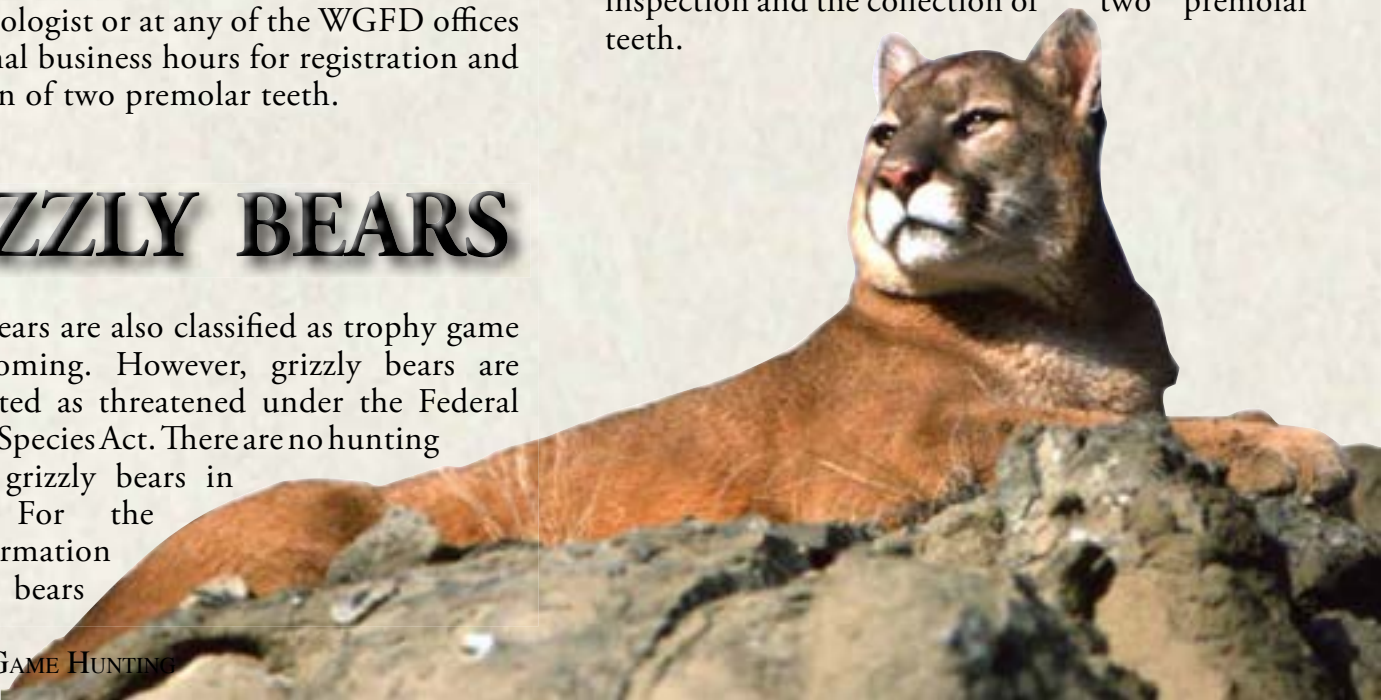
in Wyoming go to the WGFD website at <http://gf.state.wy.us/wildlife/grizzlymanagement/index.asp>.

## MOUNTAIN LIONS

Mountain lions are hunted throughout Wyoming. The season typically runs from September through March, although some hunt areas run longer. There is no limit to the number of licenses sold, but a hunter can only harvest one mountain lion during any calendar year. However, since the season overlaps calendar years, hunters need to remember to purchase a new license each year. Dogs can be used during mountain lion seasons. Hunter harvest within individual hunt areas is regulated through a mortality limit. If the limit is reached, the season closes. It is the hunter's responsibility to determine if an area is still open prior to hunting by calling the mountain lion area mortality quota hotline at (800) 637-0809. Once a mountain lion is harvested, the license holder must present the unfrozen pelt and skull within 72 hours to a local warden or biologist or at any of the WGFD offices during normal business hours for inspection and the collection of two premolar teeth.

## GRIZZLY BEARS

Grizzly bears are also classified as trophy game in Wyoming. However, grizzly bears are currently listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act. There are no hunting seasons for grizzly bears in Wyoming. For the latest information on grizzly bears







## UPLAND & MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS SMALL GAME & TRAPPING

Wyoming's reputation as a big game state occasionally overshadows the exceptional game bird and small game hunting we have to offer. Abundant populations of native small game and migratory birds and both native and introduced upland birds are found in Wyoming.

### Upland Game Birds

Wyoming offers a great variety of upland game bird hunting, but is best known for the greater sage grouse. Wyoming is home to more sage grouse than any other state. The season typically runs one to two weeks in late September. Greater sage grouse typically occupy the sagebrush basins and plains throughout all but extreme eastern Wyoming. Hunting is usually most productive in locations near sagebrush draws and meadows. As with all regulations, make sure you confirm the dates before traveling.

Another native grouse is the sharp-tailed grouse, found mainly in the grasslands of the southeast corner of the state and Sheridan and Johnson counties in north central Wyoming. Wyoming does offer some good sharp-tailed grouse hunting and ample access is available in the southeast corner of the state through the department's AccessYes Program. The better sharp-tailed hunting tends to be in native grasslands and grasslands intermingled with agricultural fields and Conservation Reserve Program lands. The sharp-tailed grouse season is closed west of the Continental Divide where a different subspecies, the Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, lives in the shrubby foothills on the west slope of the Sierra Madre Range. Be sure when hunting sage grouse in this area to distinguish between the two species. East of the divide the



season is generally open from late September and runs through the end of the year.

Blue grouse are found in all of Wyoming's mountains except the Black Hills of northeast Wyoming and the Uintas in southwestern Wyoming. There are no ruffed grouse in the Snowy or Sierra Madre Ranges of southeast Wyoming and only a few in the Black Hills. This species is mainly found in Wyoming's western mountains. There are no weapon restrictions when hunting blue and ruffed grouse and the season traditionally runs September 1 – November 30.



Both chukar and Hungarian (gray) partridge are found in Wyoming. The state's principal chukar range is the Big Horn Basin of northwest Wyoming. Hungarian or gray partridge, are also found in the Big Horn Basin. In addition, scattered populations of these birds inhabit the grasslands of the eastern slope of the Big Horn Mountains. The partridge season generally opens October 1 and runs through December.



Wild pheasant populations inhabit several of Wyoming's agricultural regions. While our populations will never rival the Dakotas, major pheasant areas in Wyoming include southeast Wyoming (Platte County near Glendo, Goshen and eastern Laramie Counties), the Lander/Riverton area, irrigation projects within the Big Horn Basin and the Sheridan area east of the Big Horn Mountains.





The Game and Fish Department operates two pheasant production facilities and releases birds on public hunting areas, including several walk-in areas. Pheasants harvested during the department's Springer Permit Pheasant hunt near Torrington must be checked in prior to leaving the area. In a typical year, around half of the pheasant harvest is released birds. Seasons vary by region.

Wild turkeys were originally introduced to Wyoming in 1935 when New Mexico traded nine hens and six toms to Wyoming in exchange for sage-grouse. The initial release site was near Cottonwood Creek in western Platte County. The majority of Wyoming turkeys are the Merriam's subspecies, but Rio Grande turkeys have established in several cottonwood bottomlands as a result of transplants from Oklahoma in cooperation with the National Wild Turkey Federation. In some parts of the state, Merriam's and Rio Grande turkeys have hybridized. Easterns are not known to exist in Wyoming, but turkeys with apparent Eastern influence have been harvested in the Black Hills.



Turkey hunting, both spring and fall, has a growing following in Wyoming. Turkey hunt area 1, the Black Hills, is Wyoming's best public land hunt area. Situated close to turkey range in Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska, some hunters will come to the Black Hills for a multi-state spring Merriam's hunt. Public land hunting

is also available on scattered portions of the Medicine Bow National Forest between Casper and Wheatland. Many areas are hunted with general, over-the-counter licenses, but some areas have a limited license quota. These licenses are issued by drawing. A separate license is required to hunt turkeys during the spring and fall seasons. Hunters can obtain general licenses either through the draw or at license selling agents throughout the season.



### Mourning Doves

For many mid-latitude hunters, an annual mourning dove hunt is the first opportunity to pull the shotgun from its case and tune up shooting skills as the fall hunting season gets underway. Due to its high average elevation (about 6,700 feet), Wyoming often experiences early cold fronts and frosts in late August or early September. When this happens, the majority of our local doves head south, sometimes before the dove season even begins. In milder years, one can expect good to excellent dove hunting through at least mid-September. The dove season begins September 1 and ends



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October 30. The better hunting is found in and near irrigated agriculture in the lower elevations. Most hunters post themselves along natural flight lanes in the corner of a field, near a water source or at the end of a shelterbelt. In Wyoming, a game bird or a game bird/small game combination license, a conservation stamp and a Federal HIP Permit for Wyoming are required to hunt doves. See Question 15 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section for additional license requirement details.

## Sandhill Cranes

Wyoming lies within the range of two populations of sandhill cranes. During migration, typically in early October, flocks from the mid-continent population of lesser sandhill cranes traverse the eastern fringe of the state over the course of several days. Those cranes do not stage in Wyoming as they do in Nebraska along the North Platte River in the spring. Hunting is largely opportunistic, and a few dozen birds are harvested per year. In Wyoming, a game bird or a game bird/small game combination license, a conservation stamp and a Federal HIP Permit for Wyoming are required to hunt sandhill cranes. See Question 15 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section for additional license requirement details.

In addition, for those hunting the general sandhill crane season in hunt area 7, a federal crane permit is required. They are available in unlimited number from the Game and Fish headquarters in Cheyenne (refer to the early migratory bird hunting regulations). The season runs from early September through early November.

Wyoming also offers a unique opportunity to hunt greater sandhill cranes from the Rocky Mountain population in the western portion of the state. Harvest from this much smaller population of cranes is tightly controlled and only a small number of limited quota permits are available. The application period is the month of July. There are six limited quota, greater sandhill crane hunt areas. The season in the four areas within the Pacific Flyway portion of the state is September 1-8



and coincides with the early Canada goose season. Seasons in the other hunt areas run from mid-September through the end of the month.

## Waterfowl

Wyoming is situated on the western edge of the Central Flyway and the eastern edge of the Pacific Flyway. Though not generally known as a waterfowl-hunting destination, Wyoming has some very good and often underused waterfowl hunting areas. Stock ponds and beaver ponds throughout the state can offer fine, early season



jump shooting for local and early migrating ducks. Wetlands in higher elevations such as the Laramie Plains mid-to late-October produce a lot of ducks, but often freeze by mid-to late-October, so waterfowl

hunting can be spectacular, but short-lived. The state's major river corridors remain open much later and typically hold migrating ducks and geese into December and January. The major waterfowl harvest areas of the state include the Big Horn and Shoshone River corridors in the Big Horn Basin and the lower North Platte River corridor through Converse, Platte and Goshen counties. Other rivers, such as the Green, Wind and Salt, also offer



good hunting, but can freeze earlier in the season. These areas tend to be more dependent on the timing and duration of the migration. To hunt waterfowl

in Wyoming, a Wyoming game bird or a game bird/small game combination license, a Wyoming conservation stamp, a Federal HIP Permit and a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp are required. See Question 15 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section for license requirement details.

One additional waterfowl hunting opportunity bears mentioning. During the spring, up to 100,000 snow, blue and Ross' geese (collectively called light geese) stage in Goshen County. Smaller numbers of light geese migrate throughout other



portions of eastern Wyoming. From late February through early April, Wyoming offers a “light goose conservation order” hunt. To participate in this hunt, a person must possess the same license and stamps (excluding federal duck stamp and HIP permit) required to hunt waterfowl. In addition, the person must obtain a light goose conservation order special management permit which can be picked up from the WGFD Cheyenne office or the Laramie or Casper regional offices, or selected license-selling agents in the area. See Question 15 in the Frequently Asked Questions Section for additional license requirement details.

## Small Game

Cottontail rabbits, snowshoe hares and squirrels are classified as small game in Wyoming. Among these, cottontail rabbits are the most popular with hunters. We have three species of cottontails (eastern, desert and mountain) that are hunted, and one (pygmy rabbit) that is protected. Cottontail populations are prone to cyclic irruptions and crashes, even more so in arid regions. During a high cycle, one biologist was heard to comment: “The desert seems to move at night,” meaning the rabbits were so abundant, the ground literally appeared to move. On the other hand, during a low cycle it can be tough to find a rabbit or two in a hard day’s hunt. One or another species of cottontail is found throughout the entire state, but they are most abundant in the sagebrush basins, grasslands and agricultural regions. The protected pygmy rabbit inhabits old-age sagebrush habitats in southwest Wyoming and is distinguished from other cottontail species by its much smaller size, proportionately shorter ears and small tail. Wyoming also has two species of jackrabbit, white-tailed and black-tailed, which are classified as predators and can be taken at any time.

Wyoming’s major mountain ranges are home to relatively sparse populations of snowshoe hares.



Huntable populations of snowshoes can be found in some locations where willow thickets and aspen pockets are intermingled with dense conifer forest. Pine or red squirrels are common in Wyoming’s mountains but are rarely hunted due to poor table quality. Fox squirrels are often quite abundant within shelterbelts and stands of cottonwood trees along creek and river bottoms, especially within agricultural regions. They are also found in the Black Hills and in urban areas and parks throughout the state. Fox squirrels are very good eating and popular in the east, but they are an underused resource in Wyoming. The range of Abert’s or tassel-eared squirrels extends into a very small portion of southeast Wyoming. Abert’s squirrel is protected and cannot be hunted in Wyoming. A small game license and conservation stamp is required to hunt cottontails, snowshoe hares and squirrels. The season is traditionally September 1 – March 1.



## Trapping

A furbearer-trapping license is required to trap or hunt furbearers in Wyoming. Badger, beaver, bobcat, marten, mink, muskrat and weasels are furbearers in Wyoming. All leg-hold traps must be checked once every 72 hours. All snares and quick-kill body-grip traps must be checked at least once each week. Nonresidents may obtain a trapping license in Wyoming only if their home state issues a license to Wyoming residents to trap the same species they intend to trap. No part of any game animal, game bird or game fish can be used to bait traps. Season dates vary by species. Bobcat seasons close March 1. All bobcats taken in Wyoming must be registered no later than 5 p.m. on March 11. Dogs may be used to take bobcats during the bobcat-trapping season. No license is required to trap predatory animals in Wyoming.

Check the annual furbearer regulations for specific rules and requirements on the WGFD website, Furbearing Animal Hunting or Trapping Seasons (Chapter 4) at <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/Regs/index.asp>



Species	Casper	Cody	Green River	Jackson	Lander	Laramie	Pinedale	Sheridan
<b>Upland Game Birds</b>								
Sage Grouse	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Sharp-tailed grouse	X					X		X
Blue grouse	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ruffed grouse	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Chukar	X	X	X		X			X
Hungarian Partridge	X	X			X			
Pheasant		X			X	X		X
Rio Grande Turkeys	X	X				X		
Merriam's Turkey	X	X			X	X		X
<b>Migratory Game Birds</b>								
Mourning Dove	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Sandhill Cranes		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Canada Geese	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snow Geese					X	X		
Ducks	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Small Game</b>								
Snowshoe hares		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cottontail Rabbits	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Red Squirrels	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fox Squirrels	X	X				X		
<b>Trophy Game</b>								
Black Bear	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mountain Lion	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Furbearers</b>								
Mink	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bobcat	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Muskrat	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Weasel		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Badger	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marten		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Beaver	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



# REFERENCE INFORMATION

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

<http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en.html>

### Wyoming State Office

P.O. Box 1828  
5353 Yellowstone  
Cheyenne, WY 82003  
(307) 775-6256

### Buffalo Field Office

1425 Fort Street  
Buffalo, WY 82834  
(307) 684-1100

### Casper Field Office

2987 Prospector Drive  
Casper, WY 82604  
(307) 261-7600

### Cody Field Office

P.O. Box 518  
1002 Blackburn Ave.  
Cody, WY 82414-0518  
(307) 578-5900

### Kemmerer Field Office

312 Highway 189 North  
Kemmerer, WY 83101  
(307) 828-4500

### Lander Field Office

P.O. Box 589  
1335 Main  
Lander, WY 82520-0589  
(307) 332-8400

### Newcastle Field Office

1101 Washington Boulevard  
Newcastle, WY 82701-2968  
(307) 746-6600

### Pinedale Field Office

P.O. Box 768  
1625 West Pine Street  
Pinedale, WY 82941  
(307) 367-5300

### Rawlins Field Office

P.O. Box 2407  
1300 North Third  
Rawlins, WY 82301  
(307) 328-4200

### Rock Springs Field Office

280 Highway 191 North  
Rock Springs, WY 82901  
(307) 352-0256

### Worland Field Office

P.O. Box 119  
101 South 23rd Street  
Worland, WY 82401-0119  
(307) 347-5100

## NATIONAL FOREST

<http://www.fs.fed.us>

### Bighorn National Forest

2013 Eastside Second  
Sheridan, WY 82801  
(307) 674-2600

### Black Hills National Forest

P.O. Box 680  
Sundance, WY 82729  
(307) 283-1361

### Bridger-Teton National Forest

P.O. Box 1888  
Jackson, WY 83001  
(307) 739-5500

P.O. Box 220

Pinedale, WY 82941  
(307) 0367-4326

### Medicine Bow National Forest

2468 Jackson St.  
Laramie, WY 82070-6535  
(307) 745-2300

### Shoshone National Forest

808 Meadowlane Avenue  
Cody, WY 82414  
(307) 527-6241

## NATIONAL PARKS

<http://www.nps.gov>

### Grand Teton

Moose, WY 83012-0170  
(307) 739-3399

### Yellowstone

P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone, WY 82190-0168  
(307) 344-7381

## NATIONAL MONUMENTS

### Devils Tower

Box 10  
Devils Tower, WY 82714-0010  
(307) 467-5283

### Fossil Butte

P.O. Box 592  
Kemmerer, WY 83101  
(307) 877-4455

## NATIONAL RECREATION AREAS

### Bighorn Canyon

20 Hwy. 14A East  
Lovell, WY 82431  
(307) 548-2251

### Flaming Gorge

P.O. Box 279  
Manila, UT 84046  
(435) 784-3445

### Wyoming State Trust Land

### Office of State Lands and Investments

122 West 25th Street  
Herschler Building, 3rd Floor West  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
(307) 777-7331  
<http://slf-web.state.wy.us>

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ORV Information

<http://wyotrails.state.wy.us>

### National Wildlife Refuges

<http://www.fws.gov/refuges>

### National Elk Refuge

<http://www.fws.gov/nationalelrefuge/>

### Duck Stamps Online

<http://www.duckstamp.com>

### Bureau of Reclamation

<http://www.usbr.gov/gp/boat/>

### Wyoming Tourism

<http://www.wyomingtourism.org>

### Wyoming Chambers of Commerce

[http://www.wyomingchambers.com/local\\_chambers.html](http://www.wyomingchambers.com/local_chambers.html)



Conserving Wildlife - Serving People